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**United States Patent** [19]

Cho et al.

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[54] **SEALING RING WITH DEFORMABLE TUBULAR SHEATH FILLED WITH PERMANENT MAGNETIC GRANULES AND METHOD OF MAKING THE SAME**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... 277/80; 277/229; 277/901

[58] **Field of Search** ..... 277/1, 80, 201, 277/226, 229, 901, DIG. 9; 49/478.1

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

There is provided an endless tubular body forming an enclosed chamber therein, and granules of permanent magnet material disposed in the chamber. The body is deformable by the granules when the granules are subjected to a magnetic force. With respect to the aspect of the invention wherein seal assembly technology is the center of interest, there are provided a first member of magnetically permeable material and a second member spaced from the first member to define a passageway therebetween, and the above described sealing ring is disposed in the passageway between the first and second members and in engagement therewith. With respect to the aspect of the invention wherein the technology of making a seal assembly is the center of interest, there is provided a method for making the above-described seal assembly.

**15 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets**